

# The Coquille Valley Sentinel

Dedicated to the Development of Coquille Valley

An Independent Paper

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## Better Firs? Why Not?

Editorial from The Oregonian, December 19, 1945

The Oregonian rises to congratulate the forestry school of the University of Washington and its new dean, Gordon D. Marckworth, in starting a project to improve the quality of Douglas fir seed and subsequently, of course, of the vast fir forest itself. There is as yet nothing else in the Pacific Northwest quite so important to our economy as Douglas fir, and any move that will help to perpetuate this king of trees and to improve it is of the greatest importance.

It will surprise and possibly shock wheat and corn farmers to learn that the lumber industry knows little about tree seeds and has done nothing to improve them. It has been content to reproduce its forests, not only here in our region, but the world over, by regeneration from wild stock, from field planting of wild seed, or from wild and hence unimproved seeds. The most backward farmer knows how the Red Fife and other strains of wheat were improved steadily year after year until a variety was developed that would withstand frost, that would burgeon mightily no matter the rain or the drouth, and that doubled, then tripled, then quadrupled the yield per acre. The most casual farmer knows about hybrid corn and its amazing results. He knows how American alfalfa and apples and vegetables and nuts were improved by patient study and selection and breeding.

Could not the same process be applied to the great trees of the woods? Logger and foresters have known for years that in the Granite Falls region of Washington there was a strain of Douglas fir that produced the finest and most abundant crop of seed in the northwest. But nothing was done to assure use of that seed in areas being reforested. There was also a fine strain near Doty, and another near Electron, both in Washington. No doubt there are others in the two states. Let us hear about them.

It is fortunate for the new project that it will be headed by Leo Isaac, on loan from the Portland office of the Pacific northwest forest and range experiment station. Mr. Isaac doubtless knows more about the reproductive habits of Douglas fir than any other man living. A year ago he summed his knowledge of twenty-five years' study of that subject in a bulletin that is already a classic and which proved, incidentally, that free seeds do not, as most men believed, lie fallow for years in the duff of the forest floor, but sprout almost at once, or never.

Mr. Isaac is patently the right man to head the new study which, it is announced, will be merely pioneering work in a project that may well last ten, or twenty, or a hundred years, for fir seed, unlike corn and wheat, cannot be improved in a couple of seasons. To know a fir's mutations calls for decades, not seasons. It is time such a study were started. Out of it can come nothing but greatly needed knowledge of how to make better fir forests, and more quickly. With lumber concerns practicing the growing of trees, and with the monstrous Tillamook burn scarcely done smoldering, it is good to contemplate better and bigger—and who knows but more fire-resistant?—specimens of the majestic tree that is a symbol of Oregon and Washington.

## High School and The Veteran

A Guest Editorial Submitted by Veterans' Administration

The importance of a high school diploma to Oregon's returning veterans cannot be over-emphasized because of the many jobs, both in private industries and in civil service in federal and state agencies, which require that the employee be a high school graduate. For this reason, it would be wise for the veteran who in so many cases was called into the service before he completed his secondary education to look carefully into the possibilities offered him to secure that much needed diploma.

The ex-warrior can return to high school, of course. But so often he feels that he is too mature for the class room after several years of army or navy life. Further, he may have to work to support himself and quite possibly a family. For these and other reasons, it is recommended that he look into the examinations offered by the U. S. Armed Forces Institute, under the guidance of the American Council on Education, which may enable him to secure his diploma without need of further study.

As D. A. Emerson, assistant superintendent in charge of secondary education for the State Department of Education, points out, the veteran certainly can't lose by taking the tests, even if he fails. In one case, a veteran in Coquille successfully passed the exams recently, with only one year in high school prior to several years' army service. The all-round experience and knowledge he had picked up in the service were, in his case, the equivalent of about three high school years.

These examinations are not a hit-and-miss proposition. The Northwest Association of Secondary and High Schools, which includes the school system of Oregon and five other Northwestern states, have spent approximately \$1500 investigating the effects and the results of these Armed Forces Institute tests, and the Association has approved them fully. The American Council on Education, before its endorsement, used the examinations on a representative body of high school seniors and worked out its norms for the GI tests from the results of these. It is a sound, approved plan conceived on the principle that a veteran's store of useful information and his ability to reason should have increased considerably during his time in the service. And it appears to be working out that way.

## TWENTY YEARS AGO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, December 25, 1925)

Santa Claus was here with bells on Wednesday evening, did his pleasant duty by nearly 600 children and then swept on to other points in the United States, Coos county, being off to one edge of the country must be visited a little early by the portly St. Nick or he would never make the rounds.

And there were enough oranges, candy and nuts beneath the beautiful tree in the Community Building for each child present to have a gift—and some secured two. The community Christmas tree event, sponsored by the Lions club and the Business & Professional Women's club was a magnificent success.

The voters rendered a very positive decision on all measures appearing on the ballot at the special election Monday. For Hall and Front streets intersection improvement, yes 147, no 18; for purchase of Athletic Park, yes 123, no 42; for authority to increase maximum fine from \$100 to \$250, yes 111, no 38; charter amendment regarding giving notice of call for caucus to nominate city officers, yes 111, no 28.

The heaviest mail ever to leave Coquille was that sent out from the postoffice here Tuesday morning.

There were 40 sacks sent out that morning.

The Coquille Gun club shoot was attended by about 40 last Sunday. About 45 turkeys and chickens were awarded as prizes. George Johnson was high winner with six turkeys to his credit. Earl Graham and A. J. Sherwood were next high with four birds apiece.

The Sentinel in this, its final issue for the present year, has to report the most prosperous year in its history, and expects to start next week on one that will prove an even better one.

J. L. Holycross had his annual Christmas tree and Santa Claus for the children of the town last Monday. There were at least 250 children filling the street in front of his store when St. Nicholas made his appearance and presented each of them with a big stick of candy.

C. H. Lowery this week closed his cleaning and pressing plant and Tuesday left with his wife for Roseburg. From there he was going down to Arizona to look for a location. He found that two shops of that kind can not make it go in a town of this size.

## Tax Men Here In January For Farmers

Deputy Internal Revenue agents will be in Coquille all day January 4th at the courthouse to assist farmers in making out their reports on form 1040 ES, Declaration of estimated income for 1945, and other income reports. Agents will also visit Bandon on January 3 at the city hall, and Coos Bay on Jan. 11, 14, and 15. At Gold Beach deputies will be at the courthouse on Jan. 9, and will visit Brookings Jan. 7-8, and Port Orford Jan. 10.

Other taxpayers will be assisted later. This itinerary will be made to

cover only people engaged in agricultural pursuits.

## Mrs. Henry Belloni Hostess To Lodge

Last Wednesday evening Dec. 19th, Mrs. Henry Belloni was hostess to the Royal Neighbors at her home on Elliott St. This was a Christmas party and exchange which has been a traditional affair with Mrs. Belloni each year. She was assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Clinton. The room was attractively decorated with electric candles, a small Christmas tree in the buffet and other yuletide trimmings. After the exchange of gifts pinocle was enjoyed.

At a late hour, Christmas pudding and coffee was served by the hostess. Members present were Mesdames Bessie Mulder, Katharen Lemon, Hattie Gaffey, Myrtle Jones, Edith Gardner, Psyche Craig, Erros Copsie, Venita Battey, Thelma Parrish, Larkie Benham, Nellie Martindale, Reona Giles, Katie Peart, Virginia Heintzelman, Agnes Schroeder, Florence Hallock, Ruby Johnson, Blanche Shepard, Jane Burch, Ida Sherrard, Luella Davis, Jane Torrey and guests, Mesdames Ann Larson, Nellie Wheeler from Sweet Home, Ann Montgomery of Coos Bay, Mr. Henry Belloni and Mr. Al Burch.

## Birthday Supper Given Mrs. Williams

A lovely birthday supper, honoring Mrs. Jane Williams was given by her sister, Mrs. J. A. Lamb, Sunday evening, Dec. 16, at the latter's home. The long table was centered with holly and red tapers while the rest of the rooms were cheery with a large Christmas tree and other holiday decorations.

Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Hawkins and Mrs. Lloyd Rosa, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Norton, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Hazard, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Shaw, Mrs. Williams and J. A. Lamb.

## Mrs. Sarah Hall Passes Dec. 19

Mrs. Sarah Hall, mother of Miss Grace Hall, passed away in Grants Pass, December 19.

They lived at 1934 Sherman Ave. North Bend and had moved to Grants Pass December 16.

Mrs. Hall had been in failing health for some time. Burial was in the family plot at Medford, Saturday, December 22.

Insurance is too important to take chances. SEE ME.

F. R. Bull  
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## Counties Register Veterans Papers

In response to inquiries regarding the recording of veterans' discharge papers, Director Hugh E. Rosson of the Department of Veterans' Affairs explained today that all counties in Oregon will perform this service without cost, as provided by state law.

Some confusion arose when the Navy began issuing a "notice of separation" on a separate sheet from the actual discharge certificate. But Attorney General George Nouner, in an opinion handed down in November ruled that this was an official part of the formal discharge and should be recorded, along with the discharge with out cost to the veteran.

On his return from the service the veteran should have his discharge recorded without delay in the office of the county clerk of his home county, Mr. Rosson emphasized.

This is important, he pointed out, because the veteran will then be able to procure photostatic or duplicate copies needed in applying for many types of employment, for state or federal educational and loan benefits, for pensions, and for compensation under the federal readjustment act.

Further, it will save the veteran the trouble and delay entailed in applying to the government for a duplicate in the event his original discharge papers become lost or stolen, Mr. Rosson explained.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

## Dean Schoenfeld On F. C. A. Board

William A. Schoenfeld, dean of the school of agriculture at Oregon State college and director of that institution's experiment stations and extension service, has been reappointed a director of the Farm Credit Administration of Spokane, R. E. Brown, general agent, announced today.

The appointment, made by I. W. Duggan, governor of the Farm Credit Administration, is for a three-year term beginning Jan. 1, 1946. It will be Mr. Schoenfeld's fifth consecutive term. As district director, he automatically serves as a director of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane, Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Spokane, Production Credit Corporation of Spokane and Spokane Bank for Cooperatives. The dean has served as chairman of the district FCA board during most of the time since his original appointment in 1934.

Prior to becoming agricultural dean and director of experiment stations and extensions service at Corvallis in 1931, Mr. Schoenfeld held several important posts with the United States department of agriculture in this county and abroad. He was assistant and acting chief of the department's bureau of agricultural economics from 1922 to 1924. For 16 years prior to 1922 he held various positions at leading agricultural colleges and universities.

Don't take chances on something just as good!  
F. R. Bull  
Phone 303 Night 106-L

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TO WISH YOU HAPPY NEW YEAR

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